

spinoso, metathorace bispinuloso, abdomine latiore nigro brevelliptico, pedibus breviusculis.

Worker. Reddish, convex, short, broad, scabrous, pilose. Head subquadrate, a little broader than the thorax. Antennæ clavate. Scutellum with two long acute spines, which are directed obliquely hindward. Metathorax with two small spines. Abdomen black, short-elliptical, broader than the thorax. Legs short. Length of the body 2 lines.

Fam. Mutillidæ.

TIPHIA DECRESCENS. *Fœm.* Nigra, nitens, scitissime punctata, antennis subtus rufis, prothoracis margine postico rufescente, abdomine fusiformi subtus apice rufescente, pedibus rufis, ccxis femoribusque nigris, his apice rufis, alis cinereis, venis stigmatæque nigris.

Female. Black, shining, very finely punctured. Head a little broader than the thorax; clypeus somewhat truncated, with a transverse furrow at its base. Antennæ red beneath. Hind border of the prothorax reddish. Metathorax with two striæ, which converge hindward. Abdomen fusiform, reddish beneath at the tip. Legs red, short, thick; coxæ and femora black, the latter with red tips. Wings cinereous; veins and stigma black; third submarginal areolet extending almost as far as the marginal areolet, about half the length of the third discoidal areolet. Length of the body 3 lines; of the wings 5 lines.

[To be continued.]

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE.

An Illustrated Index of British Shells, with Coloured Figures of all the Species. By G. B. SOWERBY, F.L.S. Simpkin and Co. 1859.

We are glad to find collectors of British shells supplied with a useful and beautiful manual of species at a comparatively small price. Hitherto they have been unable to procure any work containing the whole or any large portion of the species, without incurring an expense of many pounds. Mr. Sowerby now gives them the whole six hundred species, well figured, and arranged in such a manner that the reader can turn to a given plate and its opposite page, and learn at a glance what he wishes to know of the localities, habits, and relative characters of all the species of a given genus. The author claims to introduce about fifty new species. Some of these have been figured in other books as mere varieties, others are figured for the first time from specimens described by Mr. Jeffreys and others in the 'Annals.' We are by no means inclined to decide on the specific value of the distinctions asserted; but the author has left us in no doubt as to what they are. We wish success to this well-conceived and well-executed endeavour to supply a public want.